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same as a simple shape of basket for BWR, and the efficiency of basket production can be enhanced.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please add new Claims 13 and 14 as follows:

Sub B3C1
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13. (New) An absorbing rod which is to be inserted into a control rod guide pipe of bent fuel assemblies or a measuring pipe, said absorbing rod comprising a homogeneous structure comprising one of an aluminum composite material and an aluminum alloy formed by adding powdered boron or a boron compound having a neutron absorbing performance to aluminum or an aluminum alloy powder, said absorbing rod being insertable into one of said control rod guide pipe and said measuring pipe when transporting spent fuel assemblies stored in casket.

14. (New) An absorbing rod as claimed in Claim 13, wherein said absorbing rod comprises one of an aluminum composite powder material and an aluminum alloy powder material formed by adding one of a boron powder and a boron powder compound having a neutron absorbing performance to said one of said aluminum composite powder and said aluminum alloy powder, said one of said aluminum composite powder and said aluminum alloy powder comprise particles having a diameter of 5-150 μm and, said one of said aluminum composite powder and said aluminum alloy powder comprises additional particles of a weight percentage in the range of 0.1-30 and wherein said one of said boron powder and said boron compound has a weight percentage range of 1-20 and has a particle diameter of 0.01-100 μm .

✓ Please cancel Claims 1-12 without prejudice.